United Nations A/C.3/54/L.70

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
12 November 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 116 (b)
Human Rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Georgia, India, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritania, Morocco, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Turkmenistan: draft resolution

Human rights and terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations[2] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[3]

Recalling the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[4]

Recalling also the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights in 1993,[5] in which the Conference reaffirmed that terrorism is indeed aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy,

Recalling further its resolutions 48/122 of 20 December 1993, 49/185 of 23 December 1994, 50/186 of 22 December 1995 and 52/133 of 12 December 1997,

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).
[2] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.
[3] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[4] See resolution 50/6.
[5] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

99-34282 (E) 121199

Recalling in particular its resolution 52/133, in which it requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the implications of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, for the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling previous resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights, in particular resolution 1999/27 of 26 April 1999,[6] as well as the relevant resolutions of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,

Alarmed that acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations aimed at the destruction of human rights have continued despite national and international efforts,

Bearing in mind that the most essential and basic human right is the right to life,

Bearing in mind also that terrorism creates an environment that destroys the right of people to live in freedom from fear,

Reiterating that all States have an obligation to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms and that every individual should strive to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance,

Seriously concerned about the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups,

Profoundly deploring the increasing number of innocent persons, including women, children and the elderly, killed, massacred and maimed by terrorists in indiscriminate and random acts of violence and terror, which cannot be justified under any circumstances,

Noting with great concern the growing connection between the terrorist groups and other criminal organizations engaged in the illegal traffic in arms and drugs at the national and international levels, as well as the consequent commission of serious crimes such as murder, extortion, kidnapping, assault, the taking of hostages and robbery,

Emphasizing the importance of Member States' taking appropriate steps to deny safe haven to those who plan, finance or commit terrorist acts by ensuring their apprehension and prosecution or extradition,

Mindful of the need to protect the human rights of and guarantees for the individual in accordance with the relevant human rights principles and instruments, in particular the right to life,

Reaffirming that all measures to counter terrorism must be in strict conformity with the relevant provisions of international law including international human rights standards,

1. *Expresses its solidarity* with the victims of terrorism;

2. *Condemns* the violations of the right to live free from fear and of the right to life, liberty and security;

3. *Reiterates its unequivocal condemnation* of the acts, methods and practices of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, as activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening the territorial integrity and security of States, destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, undermining pluralistic civil society and having adverse consequences for the economic and social development of States;

4. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary and effective measures in accordance with relevant provisions of international law, including international human rights standards,

[6] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomever committed;

5. *Urges* the international community to enhance cooperation at the regional and international levels in the fight against terrorism, in accordance with relevant international instruments, including those relating to human rights, with the aim of its eradication;

6. *Condemns* the incitement of ethnic hatred, violence and terrorism;

7. *Urges* Member States to comply with the principle *aut dedere aut judicare* with a view to bringing to trial the organizers and perpetrators of terrorist acts, as well as their accomplices;

8. *Commends* those Governments that have communicated their views on the implications of terrorism in response to the Secretary-General's note verbale dated 16 August 1999;

9. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General[7] and requests him to continue to seek the views of Member States on the implications of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, for the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, with a view to incorporating them in his report;

10. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

---

[7] A/54/439.